PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

07-08

ANNUAL REPORT

MULTITYPE LIBRARY BOARD

Table of Contents

Letters of Transmittal 2

Who We Are 3

Board Members 7

Key Results 2007-2008 8

Multitype Database Licensing Program 13

Current Products Licensed – Listed by Vendor 16

The Multitype Database Licensing Program Committee 17

MDLP Usage Statistics 18

This annual report is also available in electronic format at the Ministry of Education's website, **www.learning.gov.sk.ca**.

Letters of Transmittal

His Honour the Honourable Dr. Gordon Barnhart
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008.

Ken Krawetz
Minister of Education

The Honourable Ken Krawetz
Minister of Education

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008.

Zenon Zuzak
Chair, Multitype Library Board

Who We Are

The purpose of the Multitype Library Board is to optimize the capacity and outcomes of Saskatchewan libraries by enabling all types of libraries and information providers to work co-operatively in a multitype library system.

Vision

Access to information is a democratic right of all people in Saskatchewan.

Mission

Libraries in Saskatchewan will work together to maintain and enhance a co-operative interdependent information network, which will ensure a consistent and high quality information service through a multitype library system.

Partners

The partners in the multitype library system include:

- the public, school, post-secondary education and special library sectors;
- the Provincial Library, which has traditionally played a coordinating role in the Saskatchewan library community; and,
- other information providers, such as archives, business resource centres and Aboriginal libraries.

Each partner has a unique role, mandate and client group that it serves. Partners vary in size, structure, governance, facilities, resources and functions. Each one must understand the nature of their differences as well as their similarities to co-operate more effectively.

Public Libraries

The role and mandate of public libraries are to provide people of all ages with equitable access to informational, cultural, recreational and educational materials and services. The public library system provides library service from over 300 branch libraries in communities across Saskatchewan through seven regional library systems, a federated library system in the north and two municipal libraries in the cities of Regina and Saskatoon. The Provincial Library is also a key component of the public library system.

School Libraries

The role of school libraries is to support the learning program of the school and to meet the individual needs and interests of staff and students. School libraries play an integral role in supporting curricula by providing appropriate resources and in actively involving students in the location, evaluation and use of information, ideas and resources. The range of resources in a school library includes print, non-print, electronic and human resources.

Post-Secondary Education Libraries

The role and mandate of post-secondary education libraries is to provide information and services, which support the information needs of students, faculty, researchers and staff of educational institutions and to educate clients in the use of information resources.

Special Libraries

The role and mandate of special libraries is to provide specialized information services for staff, students, or members of a parent organization. Special libraries in Saskatchewan include government, corporate and private libraries, with specialized collections and subject-knowledgeable staff.

While special libraries tend to be concentrated in the cities of Saskatoon and Regina, they are also found in smaller communities such as Humboldt, North Battleford and Swift Current.

Provincial Library

The Public Libraries Act, 1996, mandates the Provincial Library to serve as a coordinating agency for the provincial public library system and to administer public library grants. *The Libraries Co-operation Act, 1996*, mandates the Provincial Library to act as secretariat to the Multitype Library Board and to support the multitype library system

through such activities as research, planning, services support and the establishment of policies and procedures.

Information Providers

Other information providers have a variety of roles, mandates and client groups, depending on their organizations. They also bring a wide range of expertise and experiences to a partnership with libraries, which makes their contributions particularly valuable, especially in the area of information technology utilization.

Mandate and Role

The Multitype Library Board was established by *The Libraries Co-operation Act, 1996*. Its mandate is to facilitate the co-operative development of the multitype library system in Saskatchewan by providing a forum for appointed representatives of library sectors and information providers in Saskatchewan to meet and discuss ways in which they can co-operate to enhance their capacity and services.

A multitype library system is a network of working relationships, between any inter-sectoral combination of autonomous libraries and information providers, established to share services and resources for mutual benefit.

In a multitype library system, the jurisdictional boundaries and separate administrative structures of libraries and information providers remain intact, but co-operative initiatives and working relationships enable them to collectively acquire information products and develop services that they could not achieve independently.

The role of the Multitype Library Board is to find library needs that overlap and allow these areas of mutual need to be the basis for the development of co-operative policies and programs.

Programs

The Multitype Library Board operates programs and initiatives that enable collaboration among multitype partners in areas of mutual interest. Programs and initiatives are operationalized via the board's secretariat, the Provincial Library. The Multitype Database Licensing Program is the primary and longest running program of the board. Additional initiatives are developed as emerging needs and issues are identified by partners. In December 2006, the board initiated the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance to guide multitype partners in their digitization efforts.

Structure

The minister responsible for libraries appoints members of the Multitype Library Board. The following representation must be appointed:

- a library director from a public library or public library system;
- a library director from a school library or school library system;
- a library director from a post-secondary library or post-secondary library system;
- a library director from a special library or special library system;
- the Provincial Librarian;
- a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association;
- a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association;
- a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Association;
- one other person employed by a post-secondary library in any capacity; and,
- one other person employed by a special library in any capacity.

The minister may appoint any of the following representation:

- one person who is, or who is employed by, an information provider;
- one person appointed after consultation with the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association;
- one person appointed after consultation with the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities; and,
- one or two other persons in consultation with the library community.

The role of board members is to consult with their library sector to ensure broad understanding of all sectors' needs and to enable full participation of all sectors in multitype initiatives.

As entrenched in *The Libraries Co-operation Act, 1996*, the board uses consensus decision making. Consensus decision making recognizes the autonomy and individual responsibility of autonomous libraries and library systems represented on the board.

The Multitype Library Board advises and provides recommendations to the minister responsible for libraries with respect to the development of the multitype library system.

The board may also make recommendations to libraries and library systems concerning multitype library development.

The Provincial Library, a branch of the Ministry of Education, provides secretariat support to the board.

Values

The multitype library system was founded on a set of values and principles. The Multitype Library Board has placed high priority on emulating those values and has emerged as a model for bringing strong autonomous partners together in collaborative initiatives. As new partners come to the table, the board plays a critical role in cultivating a shared understanding of these values.

Strong local autonomous library partners

A strong multitype library system rests on strong, local autonomous libraries and library systems. Partners look after their own development and issues of jurisdiction.

Decisions made by consensus

Decisions on matters of importance to all partners should be made in a manner which recognizes that all the partners must either agree with the decision or, at least, could accept or work within the decision.

Think globally ... search locally

Libraries work to share resources at a local level first, then regionally, provincially, nationally and internationally.

The whole is greater than the sum of the parts

Autonomous library partners working together create a capacity for library service that is broader, more effective and less costly than the partners could achieve individually.

Commitment to co-operation for mutual benefit

Co-operation is the cornerstone of the multitype library system. The reason people are willing to co-operate is that they see that things will work better if they do.

Organic development

Growth and development of multitype initiatives are based on what is possible for the partners. Multitype initiatives will be realized through people working voluntarily at the local level to develop what works for them.

Sustained attention

Continued effort is required to build a strong multitype library system. It must remain a high priority for each of the partners and it may mean marshalling resources to ensure that the system remains healthy as it develops.

Environmental trends

In its strategic plan update, the board identifies several key trends that strongly influence the development of the multitype library system and will continue to over the next few years.

Demographics

There is a growing sense of urgency to address the changing needs of an aging population, the rural/urban shift, an increase in First Nations and Métis people and the widening literacy divide in Saskatchewan.

Demand for online information & services

The growing demand for online information and a growing sophistication in how information is structured presents a number of issues: libraries' response to how they will organize, manage and archive information; the public's ability to access information; increased expectations that information will be provided in digitized form on the Internet; and the need to reposition how libraries see themselves and are seen by the public.

Sharing of resources and services through partnerships

Increasingly, initiatives undertaken in Saskatchewan recognize the interconnectedness among sectors and the potential for mutual benefit. In the multitype library system, this means ensuring there are common values for partnering at the local and provincial levels.

Increasing restrictions on access to information

The trend towards charging for information online and issues of ownership raises a number of questions and highlights libraries' role in advocating access to information for the public good.

Recruitment, retention and training

The struggle to recruit and retain qualified staff has become a national issue crossing many sectors of the economy. A report entitled *The Future of Human Resources in Canadian Libraries* published in 2005 by the 8Rs Research Team indicates that Saskatchewan and Manitoba libraries have greater recruitment issues because the universities in these provinces do not have Master of Library Science programs. Saskatchewan libraries will require strategies to: attract new entrants and retain those currently in the workforce; ensure the competencies of information professionals are articulated and recognized; and explore affordable, accredited and accessible distance education that would give Saskatchewan residents better access to librarianship education.

Board Members 2007-2008

Public Library Sector

Isabelle Butters, former President, Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association, Weyburn; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association.

Zenon Zuzak, Director, Saskatoon Public Library, Saskatoon; serving the position of a library director from a public library or public library system.

School Library Sector

Barbara McNeil (until May 22, 2007), Teacher Librarian, Regina Public School Board, Campbell Collegiate, Regina; serving in the position of a library director from a school library or school library system.

Joanne Beltramini (starting May 22, 2007), Coordinator, Information and Library Services, Regina Catholic Schools, Regina; serving in the position of a library director from a school library or school library system.

Lois Smandych (until May 22, 2007), Southeast Branch Representative, Saskatchewan School Boards Association, Bredenbury; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association.

Bryan Wilson (starting May 22, 2007), South East Cornerstone School Division, Weyburn; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association.

Post-Secondary Education Library Sector

Rian Misfeldt (until May 22, 2007), Program Head for Library Services, SIAST Wascana Campus, Regina; serving in the position of one other person employed by a post-secondary library in any capacity.

Charlene Sorensen (starting May 22, 2007), Serials Coordinator, University of Saskatchewan Library, Saskatoon; serving in the position of one other person employed by a post-secondary library in any capacity.

Heather West, Academic Director, SIAST Library and Testing Services, Regina; serving in the position of library director from a post-secondary library or post-secondary library system.

Special Library Sector

Mary Chipanshi, Client Services Librarian, Health Science Library, Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, Regina; serving in the position of one other person employed by a special library in any capacity.

Joan Martin, Head Librarian, Canadian Agriculture Library, Saskatoon; serving in the position of a library director from a special library or special library system.

Information Providers

Phyllis Lerat (until May 22, 2007), University Librarian, First Nations University of Canada Library, Regina; representing Aboriginal libraries.

Wendy Sinclair-Sparvier (starting May 22, 2007), Branch Head, Albert Library, Regina Public Library, Regina; representing Aboriginal libraries.

Julie McKenna, Deputy Director, Regina Public Library; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Association.

Mark Vajcner, University Archivist, University of Regina Archives and Special Collections, Regina; representing the archives community.

Bev Siebert, Library Trustee, Southeast Regional Library, Milestone; representing the public.

Provincial Library

Joylene Campbell, Provincial Librarian, Regina; representing the Provincial Library, Ministry of Education.

Key Results 2007-2008

There were four board meetings in the reporting year, as well as a semi-annual and an annual meeting with stakeholders. Multitype program committees, including the Multitype Database Licensing Committee and the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance, met multiple times throughout the reporting year.

The board's priorities for 2007-2008 were guided by the strategic directions, goals and objectives of the Multitype Library Board Strategic Plan Update, a five-year plan created in 2003. The strategic directions and goals set out what the board plans to accomplish during the five-year period. The objectives are specific result statements that support the goals. The performance indicators define the outcome and are the basis for measuring and evaluating impact. The key results articulate accomplishments made during the reporting year.

Strategic Direction 1 – Develop the multitype system.

Strengthen partners by developing co-operative strategies to address emerging issues. Nurture and build relationships.

The relationships that form a healthy multitype library system require ongoing development. A key role of the Multitype Library Board is to foster communication among the partners and awareness of the benefits of multitype co-operation. The board also ensures a responsive environment to partner needs by monitoring issues and trends that are affecting partners, and identifying co-operative strategies to address them.

Performance Indicator

Strong, diverse, independent partners – with appropriate staffing, training, funding resources and facilities – contributing equitably to multitype initiatives.

Goal 1 – Actively involve communities of interest and educate members on multitype values and participation standards.

Objective 1 – Strengthen and expand the process to ensure participation of archives, Aboriginal libraries and other information providers.

Objective 2 – Design an approach to support the creation of multitype activities locally, regionally and provincially.

Objective 3 – Update the board's communication strategy.

Key Results

- The board sponsored a digitization workshop at the 2007 Saskatchewan Libraries Conference. The presenters were members of the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance and a variety of information providers were represented in the audience.

- On the recommendation of the board, the Provincial Library sponsored two successful, multi-sectoral digitization projects. A partnership between the Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System, the University of Saskatchewan Indigenous Studies Portal and the University of Saskatchewan Archives created the "Explorations of Saskatchewan Aboriginal Life" collection and the Swift Current Public Library, Swift Current Museum and Art Gallery of Swift Current worked collaboratively on the "Culture and Heritage Image Bank of Southwestern Saskatchewan" project.

- Continued with archives representation on the board. The board member representing archives has worked with the board and the broader multitype community to identify areas of need and interest that span both archives and libraries. The archives representative on the board is also a member of the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance.

- Continued with Aboriginal libraries representation on the board. The new board member representing Aboriginal libraries is a branch head at an urban library serving a large Aboriginal population and a member of several committees including Library Services for Saskatchewan Aboriginal People.

- Continued communication activities including sending all stakeholders a communiqué following each board meeting. Brought partners together at both the semi-annual general meeting and the annual general meeting to review the vision and values of the multitype system and to discuss the Multitype Database Licensing Program.

- Continued the redesign process for the Saskatchewan Libraries website, the official website of the board. A focus group consultation was held and a survey was conducted to provide recommendations for future developments. The visual interface and architecture of the site have been redesigned by ADXStudio for implementation at a later date.

Goal 2 – Research and document emerging issues facing the partners and develop strategies to address.

Objective 1 – Develop a strategy to address recruitment, retention and training needs of the partners as identified in the *Report of the Multitype Public Relations Committee*.

Objective 2 – Advance recommendations from the June 2002 discussion paper, *Saskatchewan Libraries Working Together*.

Key Results

- Drafted a background paper on creating a representative library workforce in Saskatchewan. This paper draws on research from other sectors related to equity employment and Aboriginal programs. The board will study the findings in this paper and consult with stakeholders before making recommendations to the library community on this issue.

- Supported the continuation of the Saskatchewan Libraries Education Bursary. The Provincial Library, the board's secretariat and a branch of the Ministry of Education, granted $10,000 to the Saskatchewan Libraries Education Bursary on the recommendation of the Multitype Library Board. The bursary, which is administered by the Saskatchewan Library Association, awards $5,000 to a student enrolled in a Master of Library and Information Science program or equivalent, who agrees to return to work in Saskatchewan upon completion of their degree. Since the bursary was first awarded in 2002, all of the recipients have completed their studies and taken positions in libraries in the province. The Provincial Library has now given a total of $100,000 in seed funding to the program, enough to make it self-sustaining.

- Completed the development of a competency profile for professional librarians to be used by the Government of Saskatchewan when hiring information management professionals. Librarians from the board, the Provincial Library, the Legislative Library, the Government of Saskatchewan Information Technology Office and SIAST worked with the Public Service Commission on this project. A competency profile for library technicians is expected to follow, though a timeline has yet to be established.

- Continued to monitor developments in school libraries and cultivate relationships with school divisions and school library representatives.

Strategic Direction 2 – Implement the multitype library system.

Expand access to content, including digitized information; broaden multitype partnerships; and build capacity of the partners.

The board develops initiatives to enhance partner information services. The flagship initiative, the Multitype Database Licensing Program, has extended library collections through bulk purchasing subscriptions to electronic magazines, journals and newspapers. Future endeavours will expand access to content, in particular through digitization of print collections, and will focus on involving other types of multitype partners in such projects.

Performance Indicator

Partners have the capacity to digitize information and have enhanced online collections that are utilized by the public.

Goal 1 – Develop strategies that enable partners to expand their collections and become central players in publicly accessible high quality information.

Objective 1 – Review the digitization report and develop a provincial strategy for multitype partners.

Objective 2 – Participate in innovation and learning initiatives.

Objective 3 – Conduct a formal evaluation of the multitype library system and initiatives.

Objective 4 – Continue to develop the Multitype Database Licensing Program.

Objective 5 – Develop a staff training strategy for multitype library initiatives.

Objective 6 – Aggregate, identify, find and implement access to commercial and digitized content.

Key Results

- Continued to support the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance (SDA) in their efforts to realize the recommendations from the 2005 Digitization Inventory Project, including promoting education and training related to digitization. The board sponsored "Digitization 101" at the 2007 Saskatchewan Libraries Conference, an instructional session conducted by four members of the SDA.

- Worked with the SDA to ensure that the two projects funded through the Digitization Pilot Project Grant Program met the criteria outlined in the program policy.

- Continued to participate in pan-Canadian digitization initiatives in order to ensure interoperability among collections. The collections created by both pilot projects will be available for searching through the AlouetteCanada portal.

- Enhanced the Multitype Database Licensing Program (MDLP) as follows:

  - Continued to work with the Ministry of Finance to clarify PST exemption guidelines for electronic subscriptions to newspapers, journals, magazines, and reference books. A refund of $75,728 (including interest) was presented to the MDLP for PST paid in previous years. The refund will be reinvested in the program to purchase more resources.

  - Purchased 28 E-book titles through the Gale Virtual Reference Library.

  - Created an evaluation policy and process to ensure financial accountability for the MDLP. The principles and evaluation forms will be applied to both current and potential products.

  - Set up trials for five potential products and conducted evaluations with the partners.

  - Communicated with MDLP members and the broader library community through the MDLP Communiqué and MDLP information on the Saskatchewan Libraries web site.

Goal 2 – Expand multitype projects to encompass archives, Aboriginal libraries, museums and other service providers.

Objective 1 – Sponsor a provincial conference.

Key Results

- Facilitated the initiation of digitization pilot projects developed by partnerships between public libraries and other information providers such as archives, museums, art galleries and cultural organizations. The board has received feedback indicating that the projects spawned successful cross-sector partnerships among the various organizations involved. Large numbers of cultural and historical artefacts were digitized by the two projects.

- Analysed the outcomes from the first round of pilot projects and made recommendations to the Ministry of Education to continue the program in the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

Strategic Direction 3 – Connect libraries of all types to provide equitable access to and delivery of information.

Broaden the focus to include the way information is developed, organized and presented to the people of Saskatchewan.

Networking technology enables multitype partners to collaborate with one another, share information and resources and deliver information more effectively to patrons. The board plays a leadership role in ensuring the way information is developed is appropriate, inclusive and easy for the public to find and use.

Performance Indicators

The partners' online services are interoperable, transparent to people, affordable, fast, current and distant neutral.

Goal 1 – Work with the library community to develop policy that clearly articulates the intent and implications of "one stop" access.

Objective 1 – Initiate a high level discussion on how to weave together all the services ensuring easy access.

Objective 2 – Develop a strategy to establish basic standards to support interoperability of information systems and to ensure a common understanding of how to integrate technology standards across information providers.

Objective 3 – Research, evaluate, implement and assess the impact of alternate routes to information resources.

Objective 4 – Organize and participate in a series of think tank/brainstorm sessions on e-information services and the use of appropriate technology.

Key Results

- Developed recommendations for using the PST refund to increase the amount of licensed content available to all Saskatchewan residents.
- Trial versions of the redesigned website were crafted to implement the board's recommended changes. The new site will be launched in 2008-2009. The Saskatchewan Libraries website continues to connect all types of libraries in the province electronically.
- Continued supporting the Saskatchewan online library services and resources web portal, www.mylibrary.sk.ca. Recommended redesigning this portal in the near future to provide Saskatchewan residents with "one stop" online library services.
- Continued to promote the idea of a single search capability for Saskatchewan's digital collections. Future digitization pilot projects must agree to make their collections searchable through a central portal (e.g. the AlouetteCanada's dedicated Saskatchewan page). In addition, the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance will be working to educate libraries and other information providers about metadata standards that will enable digital collections to be searched by a single interface.

Strategic Direction 4 – Promote participation in the multitype library system.

Promote an image of multitype partners that illustrates their changing and central role in access to information.

An emerging role for the board is to create and promote a new image of multitype partners that illustrates their changing and central role in access to information. This means ensuring that Saskatchewan people are aware of the information services through multitype partners. It also means updating their image and reinforcing access to information as a democratic right.

Performance indicators

The multitype library system is used and valued by the people in Saskatchewan. Multitype partners are seen as the first stop to accessible, quality information.

Goal 1 – Develop, implement and evaluate a province-wide strategy to aggressively promote the multitype library system, libraries and other information providers.

Objective 1 – Adopt proactive, innovative approaches to promotion, targeting new audiences and using new mechanisms.

Objective 2 – Promote a new image of libraries and librarianship.

Objective 3 – Advance recommendations from the *Report of the Multitype Public Relations Committee*.

Objective 4 – Establish a monetary fund for Multitype Library Board promotion strategies.

Key Results

- Reviewed the Saskatchewan Libraries website and made recommendations to modernize its look and to focus on using Web 2.0 technology to enhance content and improve communication. Used focus groups to gather input on preferred features for the new site.
- Continued support of www.mylibrary.sk.ca to provide Saskatchewan libraries with tools and resources to promote online library services.
- Maintained the Saskatchewan Library Careers section on the Saskatchewan Libraries website. The careers section promotes the field of librarianship and other careers available in libraries.
- Distributed the Multitype Library Board annual report and discussion paper to a variety of libraries, associations and agencies across Saskatchewan and Canada.
- Continued education and awareness activities at the board annual general meeting and semi-annual general meetings to promote the value of libraries and multitype co-operation.
- Solicited input from the partner libraries on the future directions for the board as part of the environmental scan for developing a new strategic plan.

Multitype Database Licensing Program

Background

The Multitype Database Licensing Program (MDLP) is a province-wide program in which libraries work together to purchase access to electronic information resources. With MDLP, library patrons across Saskatchewan can access a variety of online journals, newspapers, reference books and other resources.

The program itself is growing. The MDLP now provides full text access to 7,810 unique journal titles, up from 2006 when patrons could access slightly over 7,000.

Users in 2007 accessed MDLP resources at a similar rate to that of 2006. This maintained the 18% increase over 2005. Users performed over 2 million searches within the databases. However, the number of searches has decreased by about 10% overall. A decline in searches performed in ProQuest and Gale, the two largest databases, is largely responsible for these numbers.

In terms of finances, the MDLP program again stayed the same. The per use cost remained at approximately one dollar, while the per search cost stayed at approximately 25 cents per search. The total value of the program was $595,938 in 2007-2008.

In 2007, 38 libraries and all K to 12 schools participated in the program. Participants included all ten public library systems; all K to 12 schools, through the support of the Ministry of Education; the two university library systems; libraries on the four campuses of SIAST; the RCMP Depot Library; five small college libraries; 18 special libraries; and the Provincial Library. The Provincial Library takes responsibility for the administration and coordination of the program.

MDLP has enhanced access significantly to electronic information resources for Saskatchewan residents. Because libraries pool their funds, the overall contribution of any one library is greatly reduced. Smaller libraries with small budgets can thus access a more extensive array of information resources. These resources are also accessible from a user's home computer, and the program therefore effectively extends access to all Saskatchewan residents, a large number of whom still live in small urban, rural, and remote areas. Through MDLP, libraries are helping to close the digital divide and to ensure that all citizens have access to the quality information that is so important to education, work and leisure in a global, knowledge-based economy.

The goals of the Multitype Database Licensing Program are:

- to increase the amount of authoritative information available to library users;
- to ensure equitable access to information resources;
- to make these resources accessible in every type of library province-wide;
- to pay for access to these resources only once; and,
- to maximize the buying capacity of all libraries through cost-sharing.

Highlights of 2007/08

Evaluation

Following a request from the MDLP partners at the 2006 MDLP September general meeting, the MDLP committee created an evaluation policy and process, which were presented at the 2007 annual general meeting. The goals of the evaluation process are to ensure financial accountability for the MDLP and to measure the value of MDLP's products and of the MDLP itself.

In the spring of 2007, the committee used the approved evaluation process to put on notice and identify products for further investigation. The purpose of this process is to enable the MDLP to select products which better suit libraries' needs. The committee identified five products for further evaluation by partner libraries:

- CultureGrams;
- Greenwood Daily Life Online and World Cultures Today;
- Early Encounters in North America;
- American Indian History & Culture Online; and,
- Bibliography of Native North Americans.

The committee set up a one month's trial of these five products and collected feedback.

After reviewing all evaluation results, the committee found that there was no single product that met all sectors' needs. Therefore, no new products will be recommended for purchase in 2008.

Regarding the evaluation process itself, the committee found that some evaluation forms, such as the Core Collection Annual Review form and the Individual Product Evaluation form, are not effective. The committee will review the forms and the process as a whole and make appropriate changes.

PST Exemption for Electronic Subscriptions

In early 2007, the Ministry of Finance announced that electronic subscriptions to newspapers, journals, magazines, and reference books are exempt from the Provincial Sales Tax (PST). The ministry created a draft of PST exemption guidelines, which were sent to the MDLP committee for review. The committee will examine these documents and provide feedback to the Ministry of Finance.

In November 2007, on behalf of the MDLP, Provincial Library submitted the request for a PST refund to the Ministry of Finance. The request was approved. A refund of $75,728, including interest, was presented to the MDLP.

This money will be reinvested in the program, and partners will be asked for suggestions on how to use this refund at this annual general meeting.

E-book Purchases

At the 2007 AGM, the partners decided to spend the program surplus on a one-time purchase of E-books or other electronic resources. In the spring of 2007, the committee looked at several vendors and evaluated their products. The Gale Virtual Reference Library (GVRL) was selected as the committee felt that its reference books would be of interest to all sectors. The committee purchased 28 titles from GVRL with part of the program surplus.

The rest of the surplus will be used for the future purchase of E-books in other subjects, including fiction. The committee will create a guideline for E-book purchasing, to be presented to partners at the September general meeting.

The Cochrane Library

The original three-year partnership between the MDLP and the Health Quality Council (HQC) for The Cochrane Library expired at the end of 2007. After negotiation, the HQC agreed to sponsor another year's subscription. However, the HQC has requested that the MDLP examine the benefits of this database to all residents in the province. The MDLP committee plans to conduct research on this product and its use in libraries to provide evidence to the HQC for their continued support.

The committee will also design a survey to send to libraries regarding the usage and effectiveness of this database.

Strategic Initiatives for 2008

The MDLP Committee is recommending the following initiatives for 2008:

New Direction

At the 2007 September general meeting, the committee was asked to identify options for future development. After reviewing the MDLP's mission statement, the committee felt that the future growth of the MDLP should fit with the Multitype Library Board's strategic plan (forthcoming in 2008). The committee recommended that creation of the MDLP growth plan be postponed until after the creation of the Multitype Library Board's strategic plan.

The partners will also be able to contribute their own opinions to the growth plan. The MDLP committee has prepared two questions to be asked to partners at this annual general meeting. Once all the viewpoints have been gathered, the committee will develop a growth plan that incorporates all visions of the MDLP.

One-Time Electronic Resources Purchase

The favourable exchange rate and the aforementioned PST exemption granted the MDLP another surplus in 2007. The committee recommends that this amount be used for a one-time purchase of E-books and/or other electronic resources.

The committee proposes to evaluate new products and make recommendations to all partners. An approval process similar to that of previous years will be used. Feedback on suggested products will be asked at the September general meeting or by email if the decision is needed ahead of that time.

The committee will also create guidelines on E-book purchasing and present them at the September general meeting.

Open Access Resources

Currently, there are many excellent electronic resources available freely on the Internet. For example, The Directory of Open Access Journals is an online portal to more than 3,000 full text free scientific and scholarly journals. The committee is planning to research these open access resources and to encourage all partner libraries to provide the resources to users. This approach would effectively extend the range of the MDLP to include free electronic resources.

French Language Databases

At the 2007 September general meeting, the partners asked the committee to research more French language databases for inclusion in MDLP. These French databases could be replacements for current products. The committee has contacted the Quebec consortia for lists of their licensed French products and will continue to research and identify appropriate products for further evaluation in 2008.

Financial Contributors

Post-Secondary Education Libraries
- Bethany College Library
- Briercrest Family of Schools, Archibald Library
- Central Pentecostal College, A. C. Schindel Library
- Gabriel Dumont Institute Library
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police Depot Library
- Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, SIAST Libraries
- St. Peter's Abbey and College Library
- University of Regina, Dr. John Archer Library
- University of Saskatchewan Library

Public Libraries
- Chinook Regional Library
- Lakeland Library Region
- Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System
- Palliser Regional Library
- Parkland Regional Library
- Regina Public Library
- Saskatoon Public Library
- Southeast Regional Library
- Wapiti Regional Library
- Wheatland Regional Library

Special Libraries
- Canadian Wildlife Service
- Credit Union Central of Saskatchewan, Resource Centre
- Health Quality Council Library
- Law Society of Saskatchewan Library
- Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour
- Ministry of First Nations and Métis Relations Library
- Ministry of Health, Policy and Planning
- Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure Resource Centre
- Ministry of Social Services
- POS Pilot Plant Corporation, Information Services
- Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute Library
- Regina Qu'Appelle Health District Health Sciences Library
- Resource Centre for Sport, Culture and Recreation
- Saskatchewan Forest Centre Library
- Saskatchewan Health Information Resource Partnership
- Saskatchewan Legislative Library
- Saskatchewan Research Council Information Services
- Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation Stewart Resource Centre

School Libraries
- All school divisions through the Ministry of Education, on behalf of all K-12 school libraries in Saskatchewan

Provincial Library

Current Products Licensed – Listed by Vendor

CEDROM-SNi
BiblioBranchée/Newscan.com

EBSCO
Auto Repair Reference Library
Novelist
Novelist K-8

Encyclopaedia Britannica Inc.
Encyclopaedia Britannica Online

Grey House Canada
Canada Info Desk includes:

- Associations Canada
- Canadian Almanac & Directory
- Canadian Environmental Directory
- Directory of Libraries in Canada
- Financial Services Canada
- Governments Canada

ProQuest
Canadian Newsstand Major Dailies
Canadian Newsstand Prairies (includes Saskatchewan weeklies)
Canadian Research Index
CBCA (includes CBCA Business, Current Events, Education, and Reference)

Services documentaires multimedia
Repère

Wiley InterScience
The Cochrane Library

The Gale Group
Business and Company Resource Center
Business Index ASAP
CPI.Q (Canadian Periodicals)
Discovering Collection
Expanded Academic ASAP
General Business File ASAP
General Reference Center
General Reference Center Gold
Health and Wellness Resource Center
Health Reference Center Academic
InfoTrac OneFile
Junior Edition
Kids InfoBits
LegalTrac
Literature Resource Center
Student Edition

Gale Virtual Reference Library (E-books)

Thomson Carswell
Index to Canadian Legal Literature

The Multitype Database Licensing Program Committee

The Multitype Library Board established a committee to administer the MDLP. The committee consists of at least two representatives from each library sector. Representatives are responsible for consulting with their sector regarding the MDLP and for bringing their sector's concerns to the committee table. The members also evaluate information databases, coordinate financial contributions from their sector and make recommendations to partner libraries about what products to fund each year. They decide how to implement the strategic directions set by the annual meeting and recommend long term program development directions. In addition, they also coordinate the input from partner libraries.

Committee recommendations are presented to the Multitype Library Board at its two annual meetings. These meetings establish broad strategic directions for the coming year, approve a purchasing/renewal strategy and recommend possible financial commitments from partner libraries.

The Provincial Library negotiates province-wide licenses on behalf of the MDLP, coordinates partner funding, establishes database access through IP addresses and remote patron authentication methods, resolves access problems and provides secretariat support to the MDLP committee.

2007-2008 Committee Members

Post-secondary Education Libraries

Regan Balfour, SIAST Woodland Campus
Diana Kichuk, University of Saskatchewan Library
Barbara Nelke, University of Regina Library
Amy Rankin, RCMP Depot Library

Public Libraries

Tony Neal, Regina Public Library
Jan Smith, Palliser Regional Library
Gwen Thomson, Saskatoon Public Library

School Libraries

Joanne Beltramini, Regina Catholic Schools
Delee Cameron and Charlene Kramer, Ministry of Education

Special Libraries

Alex Juorio, Saskatchewan Forest Information Centre
Pat Kolesar, Saskatchewan Legislative Library
Jeff Mason, Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, Health Resource Center

Provincial Library

Jack Ma, Colleen Addison and Elgin Bunston

Usage Statistics

"Access" means the number of times a user entered, or logged on to one of the databases/interfaces to begin searching.

"Browse" means selecting and following specific links in a directory or pages to retrieve information.

"Search" means a specific query submitted through a search form to one database. If several databases are selected within a single search interface, each database counts as one search.

Gale	**2006**				**2007**			
	Access	%	Search	%	Access	%	Search	%
Post-secondary	179,464	51.7%	418,521	42.0%	171,609	52.2%	373,867	47.4%
Public	33,999	9.8%	125,749	12.6%	41,016	12.4%	128,282	16.3%
School	125,210	36.1%	428,231	42.9%	103,053	31.3%	256,338	32.5%
Special	8,469	2.4%	25,184	2.5%	13,034	4.0%	29,618	4.0%
TOTAL	347,142	100%	997,685	100%	328,712	100%	788,105	100%

ProQuest	**2006**				**2007**			
	Access	%	Search	%	Access	%	Search	%
Post-secondary	146,820	74.0%	873,779	70.4%	161,804	75.5%	776,433	67.5%
Public	17,543	8.8%	106,108	8.6%	15,467	7.2%	107,667	9.4%
School	12,833	6.5%	140,373	11.3%	12,475	5.8%	112,741	9.8%
Special	21,213	10.7%	120,316	9.7%	24,649	11.5%	134,661	11.7%
TOTAL	198,409	100%	1,240,576	100%	214,395	100%	1,150,512	100%

EBSCO	**2006**				**2007**			
	Access		Search		Access		Search	
Post-secondary	596	8.3%	2,346	6.3%	980	7.6%	2,218	5.8%
Public	5,596	78.2%	30,338	81.7%	9,635	74.6%	27,809	72.1%
School	842	11.8%	4,121	11.1%	2,046	15.8%	7,379	19.3%
Special	121	1.7%	322	0.9%	253	2.0%	891	2.3%
TOTAL	7,155	100%	37,127	`00%	12,914	100%	38,297	100%

Britannica	2006				2007			
	Search	%	Browse	%	Search	%	Browse	%
Post-secondary	5,073	34.2%	6,521	17.8%	5,964	28.1%	2,959	19.3%
Public	1,295	8.8%	2,533	6.9%	1,207	5.7%	1,157	7.6%
School	7,353	49.6%	24,887	67.9%	12,634	60.0%	10,102	66.0%
Special	1,092	7.4%	2,732	7.4%	1,392	6.6%	1,078	7.0%
TOTAL	14,813	100%	36,673	100%	21,197	100%	15,296	100%

Greyhouse	2007			
	Search	%	Browse	%
Post-secondary	779	42.6	1,254	44.3
Public	399	21.2	728	25.7
School	369	20.2	525	18.5
Special	278	15.2	324	11.4
TOTAL	1,825	100%	2,831	100%

Total Number of Accesses and Searches

	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Access		Searches	
Gale	347,324	328,712	997,685	788,105
ProQuest	198,409	214,395	1,240,576	1,150,512
EBSCO	7,155	12,914	37,127	38,297
Britannica Online	13,810	13,176	14,813	21,197
Index to Canadian Legal Literature (No. of Transaction)			1,732	2,182
Grey House Canada		1,825		2,831
CEDROM	4,135			
The Cochrane Library	6,543	7,179	3,548	2,363
Total	**577,376**	**579,996**	**2,295,481**	**2,006,136**

Total Usage of Serials Solutions

	2006		2007	
	In Library Use	**Remote Access**	**In Library Use**	**Remote Access**
Search	2,981	2,130	1,460	706
Browse	1,282	1,047	652	593
Click Through	1,943	572	892	440

Notes:

1. SDM could not provide any usage information for Repère. CEDROM could not provide 2007 usage data.
2. Index to Canadian Legal Literature only provides transaction (document viewed) information. Wiley cannot provide The Cochrane Library usage breakdown at the library level.
3. The Provincial Library's usage includes some usage from other member libraries whose patrons use Serials Solutions to access databases.
4. 2006 Grey House statistics are included in the ProQuest report.